

**REMARKS**

Currently claims 1-9 are pending. By this Amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended and new claims 4-9 have been added. In view of the above amendments and following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider his basis for rejecting the instant claimed application.

I. **Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)**

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,581,644 to Deiss (hereinafter “Deiss”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Pursuant to the above claim amendments, Applicant respectfully asserts that as far as Deiss is understood, Deiss fails to anticipate each and every element of, for example, independent claim 1, and accordingly, fails to anticipate Applicant’s instant claimed invention.

That is to say that as far as Deiss is understood, Deiss fails to teach a video/audio system comprising a head unit with a panel controller, *inter alia*, a remote control means for selectively operating said first and second information output means externally from the common signal line, with the remote control means carrying out an external decision state that allows an external connection decision/processing means to receive control means for selectively operating the video/audio system through the head unit with a panel controller. Instead, it appears that Deiss operates through a common bus network and electronic shunt system that appears to provide a balancing electronic force to counteract any particular undesirable ghost images, which could operate on one or more of the display devices.

Therefore, for at least this basis, Applicant respectfully asserts that Deiss fails to anticipate each and every element found within, for example, independent claim 1 as recited above. In addition, claims 2-3 are also asserted to be patentably distinct from Deiss, since claims 2-3 depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 1, and by process of incorporation, are at least distinguishable for the basis that they depend from independent claim 1, as well as the additional recitations contained therein.

In addition, newly added claims 4-9 are also believed to be patentably distinct from Deiss for at least the same bases asserted above, as well as the basis that new claims 4-9 depend

directly or indirectly from independent claim 1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the outstanding rejections of claims 1-3 under § 102(b) over Deiss.

II. Conclusion

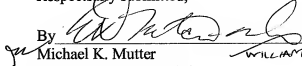
In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact William D. Titcomb Reg. No. 46,463 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By  <sup>46463</sup>  
Michael K. Mutter  
Registration No.: 29,680  
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP  
8110 Gatehouse Road  
Suite 100 East  
P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000  
Attorney for Applicant